PODOPHYLLUM PELTATUM.

May Apple.

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PLATE XXIII.

THE *Podophyllum peltatum* or *May apple*, otherwise called *Mandrake* in this country, inhabits low shady situations from New England to Georgia. On the Atlantic coast I have never met with it farther north than Boston, yet in the interior of the country it has a more extensive range. From its large creeping roots, it has a great tendency to multiply, and is always found in beds of greater or less extent. Its flowering time is from March to May.

This plant is one of the *Ranunculaceæ* of Jussieu and *Rhœades* of Linnæus; and is in the first order of the Class *Polyandria.*

Its generic character consists in a *calyx* of *three leaves; from six to nine petals; and a one-celled berry crowned with the stigma.* Only one spe-

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